

CAPSULE SUMMARY

BA-1716

Beulah Ensor House

14825 York Road

Sparks, Baltimore County

1840 ca.

Private

The Beulah Ensor House, constructed circa 1840, is representative of the many vernacular stone dwellings erected throughout Baltimore County in the 19th century. The building is one of several extant stone dwellings in the village of Philopolis that date to the mid-1800s. The 1850 county atlas indicates that Philopolis was already a burgeoning community by mid-century. In addition to the boarding school sited to the north of the Beulah Ensor House, there were numerous dwellings, a schoolhouse, gristmill and a store in the village. The post office depicted on the map is in the approximate location of the extant resource, however exterior architectural analysis cannot confirm whether the Beulah Ensor House served in that capacity in the mid-1800s. Philopolis continued to grow rapidly, and by 1877, a tavern and two blacksmiths shops were established there. At that time, the Beulah Ensor House appears to have been occupied by T.R. Price. Although the community continued to develop through the early 20th century, its growth slowed. Ownership of the Beulah Ensor House passed from the Price family to Michael G. Snosky in 1925. Snosky retained the property for only three years before conveying it to the Ensor family. The Beulah Ensor House has continued to serve as a residence through the late 20th century, while Philopolis has become engulfed by the neighboring communities of Sparks-Glencoe and Cockeysville.

The Beulah Ensor House is a two-and-a-half-story vernacular dwelling of solid stone masonry that has been parged with stucco. One interior parged stone chimney rises from the rear gable end of the front gable roof clad in standing seam metal. The façade, or west elevation, is centrally pierced by a sash-and-paneled single-leaf wood door flanked by two 6/6 windows. Two additional 6/6 windows pierce the second story. Two four-light casement windows are located in the gable peak. All façade openings have square-edged wood surrounds and sills. A shed-roofed dormer clad in German siding was added to the roof circa 1950. A deck was constructed on the south elevation in the second half of the 20th century.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-1716

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic

other Beulah Ensor House

2. Location

street and number 14825 York not for publication

city, town Sparks vicinity

county Baltimore County

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Kevin Konkus

street and number 14825 York Road telephone Not Available

city, town Sparks state MD zip code 21152

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 13336 folio 203

city, town Towson tax map 34 tax parcel 28 tax ID number 0805061375

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			1

7. Description

Inventory No. BA-1716

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Constructed circa 1840, the Beulah Ensor House is a two-and-a-half-story vernacular dwelling of solid stone masonry that has been parged with stucco. One interior parged stone chimney rises from the rear gable end of the front gable roof clad in standing seam metal. The façade, or west elevation, is centrally pierced by a sash-and-paneled single-leaf wood door flanked by two 6/6 windows. Two additional 6/6 windows pierce the second story. Two four-light casement windows are located in the gable peak. All façade openings have square-edged wood surrounds and sills. A shed-roofed dormer clad in German siding was added to the roof circa 1950. A deck was constructed on the south elevation in the second half of the 20th century.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-1716

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates	1840 ca.-1950 ca.	Architect/Builder	Unknown
Construction dates	1840 ca., 1950 ca.		

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The Beulah Ensor House, constructed circa 1840, is representative of the many vernacular stone dwellings erected throughout Baltimore County in the 19th century. The building is one of several extant stone dwellings in the village of Philopolis that date to the mid-1800s. The 1850 county atlas indicates that Philopolis Post Office was already a burgeoning community by mid-century. The community's name came from a professor at the Milton Academy—the local boarding school—who taught classical Greek.¹ In addition to the boys' boarding school, which was sited to the north of the Beulah Ensor House, there were numerous dwellings, a schoolhouse, gristmill and a general store in the village. The post office depicted on the map is in the approximate location of the extant resource, however exterior architectural analysis cannot confirm whether the Beulah Ensor House served in that capacity in the mid-1800s.² Philopolis continued to grow rapidly, and by 1877, a tavern and two blacksmiths shops were established there.³ In the late 19th century, the community also included an undertaker and milliner.⁴ At that time, the Beulah Ensor House appears to have been occupied by T.R. Price. Although the community continued to develop through the early 20th century, its growth slowed.⁵ Ownership of the Beulah Ensor House passed from the Price family to Michael G. Snosky in 1925. Snosky retained the property for only three years before conveying it to the Ensor family.⁶ The Beulah Ensor House has continued to serve as a residence through the late 20th century, while Philopolis has become engulfed by the neighboring communities of Sparks and Cockeysville.

¹ S. B. Clemens and C. E. Clemens, *From Marble Hill to Maryland Line: An Informal History of Northern Baltimore County* (np: C. E. Clemens and S. B. Clemens, 1976), p. 23.

² J.C. Sidney, *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys* (Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850).

³ *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877).

⁴ S. B. Clemens and C. E. Clemens, *From Marble Hill to Maryland Line: An Informal History of Northern Baltimore County* (np: C. E. Clemens and S. B. Clemens, 1976), p. 23.

⁵ *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915).

⁶ Baltimore County Historic Inventory.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-1716

Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.

Baltimore County Historic Inventory.

Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. *A History of Baltimore County.* Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.

Map of Baltimore County. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.

Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men.* Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.

Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys.* Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property .10 Acre

Acreage of historical setting Unknown

Quadrangle name Hereford

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Since its construction circa 1840, the Beulah Ensor House has been associated with the .25 acres of land known as tax parcel 28 of map 34 located in the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's office.

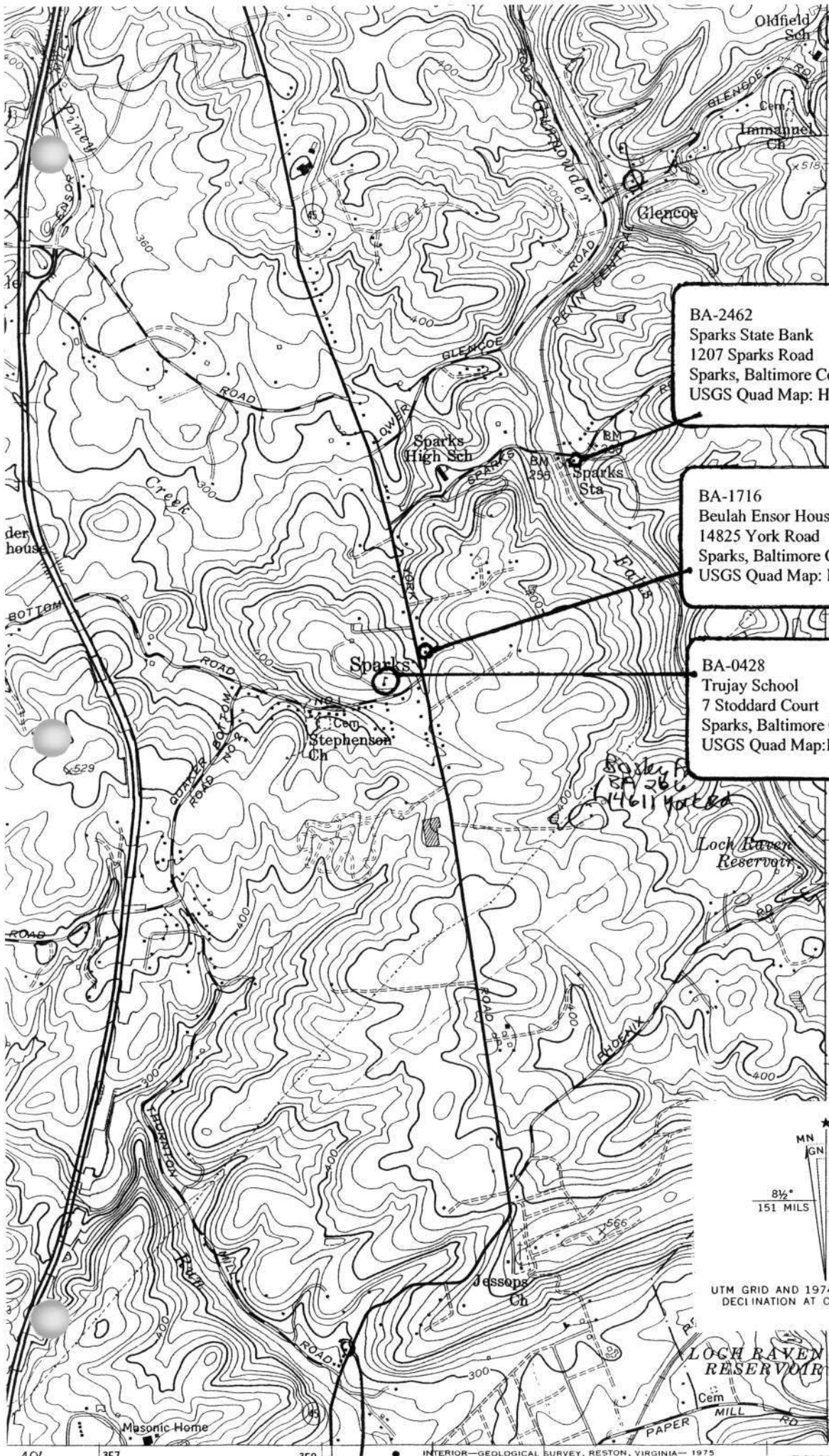
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Tracerics, Incorporated	date	May 10, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



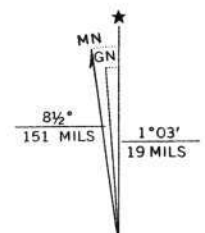
glencoe
P.O. BA
408

BA-2462
Sparks State Bank
1207 Sparks Road
Sparks, Baltimore County
USGS Quad Map: Hereford

BA-1716
Beulah Ensor House
14825 York Road
Sparks, Baltimore County
USGS Quad Map: Hereford

BA-0428
Trujay School
7 Stoddard Court
Sparks, Baltimore County
USGS Quad Map: Hereford

BA-266
14611 York Rd



UTM GRID AND 1974 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

LOCH RAVEN RESERVOIR

JACKSONVILLE



BA-1716

14825 YORK ROAD, SPARKES

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

4/2001

MD SHPO

SW CORNER

1 of 2



BA-1716

14825 YORK ROAD, SPARKS
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND
TRAGERIES

4/2001

MD SHPO

NE CORNER

2 of 2

BA-1716

BEULAH ENSOR HOUSE - Before 1850 - 14825 of York Road, Philopoiss village. Squarish, stone, stuccoed-over house in vernacular style, presently-white-washed; ribbed aluminum gable roof. Set between Price's store (P29) and Milton Inn (P27) and shown as Parcel 28 on Tax map 34. This lot is a quarter of the original Price Store lot of 1833, sold in 1925 by Harry Price to Michael G. Snosky. The 1918 tax ledger called it a tenant house, 28 x 18, and assessed at \$126. Owned by Ensor family since 1928. Owner: Beulah S. Ensor et al.